CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	31.jpg_500.jpg
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1400089.026
Medium:	Computer Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	30 April 2014
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	30 April 2014

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer image file is deemed to be objectionable because it tends to promote and support the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.

The image on the file shows a prepubescent girl sitting in an office chair and wearing only briefs. The image has a close and deliberate focus on the young girl's crotch. Although her briefs cover her genitals, the sexual intent of the image is obvious. The image encourages viewers to see children as sexually available and perpetuates the idea that they may be used for adult sexual gratification.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention and is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression. The classification reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from sexual exploitation.